

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS

FOR SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN COUNTIES

SEPTEMBER 2003



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August Local Labor Scene

The August seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for **the Janesville/Beloit Metropolitan Area** was 6.9 percent, two-tenths of a percentage point higher than July's estimate and two-tenths of a percentage point higher than the August 2002 estimate.

All six Southwest Counties experienced declining unadjusted unemployment rates in August, joining the 43 of Wisconsin's 72

counties that had lower unadjusted unemployment rates in August than in July.

Nine Wisconsin counties had experienced no change in their August unadjusted unemployment rates and twenty Wisconsin counties reporting an increase in unemployment in August.

6.1 percent in August, which is one-tenth of a percentage point lower than July's and three-tenths higher than the rate recorded for August 2002.

National consumer confidence bounced back in August from a dip the previous month, a private research group reported this month. The New York based Conference Board said its Consumer Confidence Index rose to 81.3 in August, up 4.3 points from a revised 77.0 in July. Analysts had expected a reading of 79.6 for August. Those reporting

that jobs are "hard to get" rose to 34.1 percent from 32.7 percent in July. Consumers claiming jobs are "plentiful" however rose to 11.1 percent, up from 10.7 percent.

Average hourly compensation costs in US dollars for production workers in manufacturing in 29 foreign

Labor Force Estimates (Seasonally Adjusted)			
	Janesville/Beloit MSA	Wisconsin (000s)	United States (000s)
<u>Current month: August 2003</u>			
Civilian Labor Force	79,600	3,100.8	146,530
Employment	74,100	2,918.8	137,625
Unemployment	5,500	182.0	8,905
Unemployment rate	6.9%	5.9%	6.1%
<u>Change from one month ago</u>			
Civilian Labor Force	-1,500	1.2	(10)
Employment	-1,600	-6.2	147
Unemployment	100	7.4	(157)
Unemployment rate	0.2%	0.3%	-0.1%
<u>Change from one year ago</u>			
Civilian Labor Force	1,200	77.2	1,407
Employment	1,000	62.3	868
Unemployment	300	14.9	539
Unemployment rate	0.2%	0.4%	0.3%

Note: All estimates are preliminary and based on place of residence.

Statewide Notes

Wisconsin's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated to be 5.9 percent in August, three-tenths of a percentage point higher than July's estimate and four-tenths higher than the August 2002 estimate. Wisconsin's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in August dropped over the month one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.4 percent.

National Notes

The national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was

economies remained at 66 percent of the U.S. level in 2002, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Although overall compensation costs relative to the United States remained the same in 2002 as in 2001, costs in Europe rose from 90 to 95 percent of the U.S. level, while relative costs declined in Canada and Japan. In the United States, hourly compensation costs for production workers in manufacturing increased 3.5 percent in 2002 to \$21.33.

Southwestern Wisconsin Workforce Development Area

August 2003	Grant	Green	Iowa	Lafayette	Richland	Rock	Region	Non MSA's *	Wisconsin
Civilian Labor Force**	24,836	17,263	14,398	7,343	8,480	80,178	152,498	72,320	3,129,356
Employed	23,637	16,335	13,942	6,941	8,105	74,932	143,892	68,960	2,959,618
Unemployed	1,199	928	456	402	375	5,246	8,606	3,360	169,738
Unemployment rate(%)	4.8	5.4	3.2	5.5	4.4	6.5	5.6	4.6	5.4
Total Nonfarm (NFWS) ***	18,800	13,700	11,400	3,610	5,900	68,000	121,400	53,400	2,795,100
Total Private	14,300	11,800	10,100	2,630	4,800	59,700	103,400	43,700	2,420,000
Goods Producing	3,700	3,600	1,200	680	1,800	19,100	30,200	11,100	652,800
Service Producing	15,100	10,000	10,200	2,930	4,100	48,900	91,200	42,300	2,142,300
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	700	800	600	160	200	3,200	5,700	2,500	131,800
Manufacturing	3,000	2,800	600	520	1,600	15,900	24,500	8,600	521,000
Trade	2,800	2,700	5,800	680	1,100	13,100	26,100	13,000	442,200
Transportation & Utilities	500	300	300	180	100	2,500	3,900	1,400	323,100
Financial Activities	1,100	400	200	190	300	2,000	4,200	2,200	159,300
Education and Health Services	2,300	2,200	900	320	600	7,900	14,300	6,400	363,300
Leisure & Hospitality	1,800	1,500	1,200	290	500	6,300	11,600	5,300	260,500
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	2,100	1,100	400	290	400	8,800	13,100	4,300	439,400
Total Government	4,470	1,830	1,350	980	1,070	8,300	18,000	9,700	375,100
Federal	160	100	100	70	60	300	800	500	28,700
State	1,690	40	110	40	150	400	2,400	2,000	91,100
Local	2,620	1,690	1,150	870	860	7,600	14,800	7,200	255,300
Change from one month ago	July 2003								
Civilian Labor Force**	-90	-20	170	-140	-100	-4,000	-4,220	-200	-38,600
Employed	-10	210	270	-110	-80	-1,900	-1,610	300	-32,600
Unemployed	-80	-230	-100	-20	-20	-2,200	-2,620	-500	-6,000
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.3	-1.3	-0.7	-0.2	-0.3	-2.3	-1.6	-0.6	-0.1
Total Nonfarm (NFWS)***	140	290	330	-60	-20	-800	-100	700	-5,400
Percent change NFWS last month	0.7%	2.2%	2.9%	-1.6%	-0.4%	-1.2%	-0.1%	1.3%	-0.2%
Total Private	0	300	300	30	0	-200	400	600	400
Goods Producing	0	100	0	0	0	-200	-100	100	2,100
Service Producing	100	200	300	-60	0	-600	0	600	-7,500
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	10	-10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manufacturing	0	150	0	0	-20	-200	-100	100	2,100
Trade	-60	100	300	10	-10	200	500	300	1,900
Transportation & Utilities	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,500
Financial Activities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100
Education and Health Services	10	10	30	0	0	-200	-200	0	-200
Leisure & Hospitality	10	20	-10	0	0	0	0	0	-1,100
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	-10	40	-10	20	0	0	0	0	-1,000
Total Government	170	0	30	-90	0	-600	-500	100	-5,800
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100
State	150	0	0	0	0	0	100	100	900
Local	20	0	30	-90	0	-600	-600	0	-6,600
Change from one year ago	August 2002								
Civilian Labor Force*	1,230	-480	470	330	160	1,300	3,000	1,700	74,000
Employed	1,060	-510	10	350	130	1,000	2,500	1,500	59,100
Unemployed	170	40	-40	-20	30	300	400	200	14,900
Unemployment rate(%)	0.4	0.4	-0.4	-0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3
Total Nonfarm (NFWS)***	520	-730	200	140	-20	-200	-100	100	1,200
Percent change NFWS last year	2.9%	-5.1%	1.8%	4.0%	-0.4%	-0.3%	-0.1%	0.2%	0.0%
Total Private	400	-700	200	80	0	-100	-200	-100	5,800
Goods Producing	0	-200	-100	10	-100	-200	-500	-300	-23,400
Service Producing	500	-600	300	130	100	0	400	400	24,600
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	-10	80	-10	10	0	0	100	100	-8,100
Manufacturing	0	-240	-50	0	-90	-200	-600	-400	-15,200
Trade	-50	-400	120	30	10	900	600	-300	9,300
Transportation & Utilities	20	30	10	-10	0	-300	-300	0	5,700
Financial Activities	90	10	10	0	30	0	100	100	5,200
Education and Health Services	70	20	50	50	30	-300	-100	200	6,400
Leisure & Hospitality	200	200	100	30	20	-200	400	600	-100
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	30	-400	-30	-20	20	0	-400	-400	9,400
Total Government	160	-20	-10	60	-40	-100	100	200	-4,500
Federal	-10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-800
State	140	0	10	10	-10	0	100	100	-3,200
Local	30	-20	-10	50	-30	-100	-100	0	-600

* Five counties, excluding Rock County ** Includes participants residing in area. *** Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. NFWS data is benchmarked to 3/2002

Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi/>

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